

Item Subject: Press Guidance, 5/25

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TO PRESS GUIDANCE
May 25, 1994

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Mr
press
guidance

RELEASED IN FULL

RWANDA:
CURRENT SITUATION

Q. Please provide an update on the fighting in Rwanda as well as an update on the peacemaking efforts of UN rep Iqbal Riza. What has been the response to the UN's call for troops to form a peacekeeping unit for Rwanda? Who has offered troops? Has the U.S. offered troops? equipment? for this Afrika Korps?

A. -- UN SOURCES REPORT THAT RPF AND GOVERNMENT FORCES CONTINUE THEIR BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF KIGALI, WITH GOVERNMENT FORCES MAINTAINING CONTROL OF THE CENTER OF THE CITY WHILE THE RPF TIGHTENS ITS GRIP AROUND THE PERIPHERY. THE RPF IS ALSO TRYING TO TIGHTEN ITS CONTROL AROUND THE PERIPHERY OF GITARAMA IN THE SOUTH.

-- THE UN DEPUTY HEAD FOR PEACEKEEPING, MR. IQBAL RIZA, YESTERDAY MET WITH GOVERNMENT MILITARY LEADERS IN KIGALI. HE PLANS TO TRAVEL TO GITARAMA TODAY TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT LEADERS THERE.

-- THE UN IS COLLECTING RESPONSES TO ITS CALL FOR TROOPS FOR AN EXPANDED UNAMIR FORCE. SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING GHANA, ETHIOPIA, AND SENEGAL, HAVE RESPONDED POSITIVELY,

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- BUT THE NUMBERS AND TYPES OF TROOPS HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. SOME NON-AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE ALSO INDICATED THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTING SOME PERSONNEL, BUT DETAILS ARE STILL BEING DISCUSSED.
- THE U.S. HAS NOT OFFERED TROOPS, BUT WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE SUPPORT IN OTHER AREAS, SUCH AS TRANSPORT AND EQUIPMENT.

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SEPKA 521; 5/25/94

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